

Appl. No. 10/709,065
Amdt. dated 1/3/2006
Reply to Office action of 12/06/2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (canceled)

2 (canceled)

3 (canceled)

4 (canceled)

5 (currently amended): A method of making gas turbine transition duct bodies without longitudinal welds comprising the steps of

providing at least one hemispherical bellows thruster having a bellows structure,

structural welding a[[n]] bellows thruster to each open end of a duct body such that the duct body is capable of containing internal pressure,

removably securing a pressurizing means to at least one of said bellows thrusters capable of pressurizing the inside of a duct body, and

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hydroforming the transition duct body in a hydroforming press to a pressure less than the capacity of the hydroforming press.

6. (original): The method of claim 5, wherein the bellows structure is uniform around the axis of the hemispherical bellows thruster.

7 (currently amended): A method of making gas turbine transition duct bodies without longitudinal welds comprising the steps of
providing at least one hemispherical bellows thruster having a bellows structure, wherein the bellows structure is uniform around the axis of the hemispherical bellows thruster and ~~The method of claim 6, wherein the bellows structure comprises one ripple around the axis of the bellows thruster~~
structural welding a bellows thruster to each open end of a duct body such that the duct body is capable of containing internal pressure,
removably securing a pressurizing means to at least one of said bellows thrusters capable of pressurizing the inside of a duct body, and
hydroforming the transition duct body in a hydroforming press to a pressure less than the capacity of the hydroforming press.

8 (currently amended): The method of claim 57, wherein the bellows structure is non-uniform around the axis of the hemispherical bellows thruster.

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9 (currently amended): A method of making gas turbine transition duct bodies without longitudinal welds comprising the steps of

providing at least one hemispherical bellows thruster having a bellows structure. The method of claim 8, wherein the bellows structure is non-uniform around the axis of the hemispherical bellows thruster and comprises at least two ripples on one side of the bellows thruster, and one ripple on the other side of the bellows thruster,

structural welding a bellows thruster to each open end of a duct body such that the duct body is capable of containing internal pressure,

removably securing a pressurizing means to at least one of said bellows thrusters capable of pressurizing the inside of a duct body, and

hydroforming the transition duct body in a hydroforming press to a pressure less than the capacity of the hydroforming press.

10 (currently amended): The method of claim 57, wherein the hemispherical bellows thruster bellows structure is adapted to supply more lateral force to the duct body during hydroforming than hemispherical bellows thrusters without bellows.

11 (currently amended): A method of making gas turbine transition duct bodies without longitudinal welds comprising the steps of

providing at least one hemispherical bellows thruster having a bellows structure, wherein the bellows structure is non-uniform around the axis of the

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hemispherical bellows thruster and comprises one ripple around the axis of the bellows thruster, and~~The method of claim 8,~~ wherein the hemispherical bellows thruster bellows structure is adapted to supply more lateral force to one side of the duct body during hydroforming than the other,

structural welding a bellows thruster to each open end of a duct body such that the duct body is capable of containing internal pressure,

removably securing a pressurizing means to at least one of said bellows thrusters capable of pressurizing the inside of a duct body, and hydroforming the transition duct body in a hydroforming press to a pressure less than the capacity of the hydroforming press.

12 (currently amended): The method of claim 6Z, further comprising the step of providing a pair of hydroforming dies that when assembled form at least two hemispherical recesses sized to communicate with hemispherical bellows thrusters secured to the duct body during hydroforming.

13 (currently amended): The method of claim 75, adapted to form two transition duct bodies in a back-to-back arrangement, said hydroforming press comprising dies shaped to form two transition duct bodies in a back-to-back arrangement.

14 (currently amended): The method of claim 75, wherein the duct body is a multi-layer transition duct body.

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15 (original): The method of claim 14, wherein an anti-fretting material is disposed between an inner layer and an outer layer of the multi-layer transition duct body.